(a) whether Government propose to amend the Copyright laws making import and sale of counterfeit products a non-bailable offence;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the problem of counterfeiting of products have an adverse impact on exports also; and

(d) if so, the time by which a stringent decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) to (d) As per Section 51 of the Copyright Act, 1957, amended in 1999, imports into India of infringing copies of a work has been made an offence to check import of counterfeit products in all its dimensions. Chapters XII and XIII of the Copyright Act contain provisions for civil and criminal remedies providing imprisonment for a period of six months and fine of Rs. 50,000/- There is no proposal to amend the Copyright Act to make import and sale of counterfeit products a non-bailable offence.

Remedies also exist in the Trade and Merchandise Marks Act, 1958, both civil and criminal, under which action against piracy of products of registered brands, resulting in infringement of rights, can be secured in the appropriate courts. The Trade and Merchandise Marks Act, 1958 is proposed to be replaced by the Trade Marks Act, 1999 under which the penal provisions for infringement of trademarks rights have been enhanced. Sections 101 to 105 of the Trade Marks Act, 1999, provide, for necessary penalties for counterfeiting. Offences under Section 103, 104 and 105 have been made cognizable and the period of imprisonment provided is to be not less than six months with a maximum of three years with a minimum fine of Rs. 50,000/- which may be extended to Rs. 2,00,000/-

Misuse of licence for import of Scotch concentrates

2573. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV:
SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the names of parties which at present hold licence for import of Scotch concentrates indicating the quantity in each case;

(b) whether it is a fact that the licences of some parties are being utilized by others which often leads to malpractices and under-invoicing;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to curb this practice; if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what are the names of the parties whose applications are pending for grant of licence to import Scotch concentrates and the reasons for delay in taking a decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) A list of such companies is given in the Statement (*See* below)

(b) and (c) No such instance has come to the notice.

(d) No such case is pending.

Statement

The name of the parties to whom licences were issued for import of Scotch concentrates indicating the quantity in each case

Sl. No.	Name of the firm	Description, Qty. and CIF value	Date of issue of instructions to RLA for grant of import License
1	2	3	4
1.	The United Agencies Ltd.; Kolhapur, Maharashtra	13611 Ltrs. Malt Scotch Whisky Rs. 19,93,544/-	10.12.1999
2.	Shaw Wallace & Co. Ltd.; Calcutta	200,000 BL of concentrate of Scotch Rs. 2.10 crores	1.1.2001
3.	Radico Khaitan Ltd; Rampur	32,000 BL of concentrate of Scotch Rs. 40,00,000/-	1.1.2001
4.	United Distilleries India Ltd.; Bangalore	133,200 BL Black Dog 12 years old Scotch concentrate & 88,800 BL Black and white Scotch concentrate & 155,400 BL Vat 69 Scotch concentrate Rs. 5,83,20,288/-	24.1.2001

1	2	3	4
5.	Seagram Distilleries Ltd.; Mumbai	350000 Bulk liters Alcoholic beverages concentrate Rs. 2,07,32,000/-	29.6.2000
6.	M/s Seagram Manufacturing Ltd.; Gurgaon	455 Bulk KL of concentrate of alcholic beverages Rs. 2,62,80,163/-	13.8.99
7.	Central Distillery and Breweries Ltd.; U.P.	200,000 BL of concentrate of Scotch concentrate alcoholic beverages Rs. 210 lakhs	3.1.2001
8.	Allied Domeq Sprits and Wines (I) Pvt. Ltd.; New Delhi	320 Bulk KL concentrate alcoholic beverages	24.11.2000

Availability of edible salt

2574. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether salt industrial area adjacent to the NH-4 near Bachau in Bhuj has been completely wiped out; and

(b) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken to ensure that there is no shortage of edible salt in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. RAMAN SINGH): (a) No, Sir. However, some cracks have appeared in various compartments of the salt works.

(b) Enough stock of edible salt is available in Gujarat and also in other salt producing States. As such, shortage of salt in the country is not anticipated.

Production and consumption of cement

2575. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the consumption of cement in the country during the last three years;